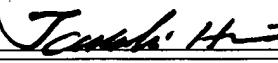


AP7 Rec'd PCT/PTO 17 JAN 2006 PCT

BRINKS
HOFER
GILSON
& LIONE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date:

Date: January 10, 2006 Name: Tadashi Horie (Reg. No. 40,437) Signature: 

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Int'l Appln. of: Toshio MIKIYA
Takuya NISHIO
Kohji MATSUMOTO

Int'l Appln. No.: 10/520,206

Int'l Filing Date: June 27, 2003

For: FEMALE COUPLING MEMBER OF
A PIPE COUPLING

Attorney Docket No: 10210/25

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Art Unit: To Be Assigned

Mail Stop: Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL

Sir:

Attached is/are:

Response to Notification of Missing Requirements (in dup.), Copy of Notification to be returned, Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney, Check for \$130
 Return Receipt Postcard

Fee calculation:

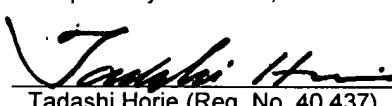
No additional fee is required.
 Small Entity.
 An extension fee in an amount of \$____ for a ____-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).
 A surcharge (for late submission of declaration) in an amount of \$130 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16(f).
 An additional filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

| | Claims Remaining After Amendment | Highest No. Previously Paid For | Present Extra | Small Entity | | Not a Small Entity | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|--------------|-----------|--------------------|----------|-----------|
| | | | | Rate | Add'l Fee | or | Rate | Add'l Fee |
| Total | | Minus | | x \$25= | | | x \$50= | |
| Indep. | | Minus | | x 100= | | | x \$200= | |
| First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim | | | | +\$180= | | | +\$360= | |
| | | | | Total | \$ | | Total | \$ |

Fee payment:

A check in the amount of \$130 is enclosed.
 Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 in the amount of \$____. A copy of this Transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.
 Payment by credit card in the amount of \$____ (Form PTO-2038 is attached).
 The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this paper (including any extension fee required to ensure that this paper is timely filed), or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

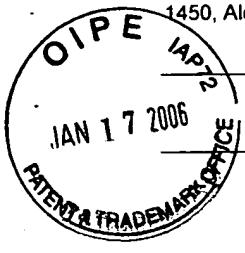
Respectfully submitted,


Tadashi Horie (Reg. No. 40,437)

January 10, 2006
Date

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

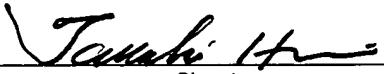
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope, with sufficient postage, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on


January 10, 2006

Date of Deposit

Tadashi Horie Reg. No. 40,437

Name of Applicant, Assignee or
Registered Representative


Signature

January 10, 2006

Date of Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: Toshio MIKIYA
Takuya NISHIO
Kohji MATSUMOTO

U.S. Appln. No.: 10/520,206

Attention: Manager,
Application Branch

Int'l Appln. No.: PCT/JP03/08170

Int'l Filing Date: June 27, 2003

For: FEMALE COUPLING MEMBER OF
A PIPE COUPLING

Attorney Docket No: 10210/25

**RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION OF MISSING REQUIREMENTS UNDER 35 U.S.C.
371 IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attn.: Mail Stop Missing Parts

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the Notification of Missing Requirements under 35 U.S.C. 371 dated December 12, 2005, a copy of which is attached, enclosed herewith for filing are the following documents:

- Fully executed Declaration for Patent Application and Power of Attorney for the above-referenced patent application.
- Applicant:
 - claims small entity status. See 37 CFR1.27.
 - is other than small entity
- A check in the amount of \$130 for:
 - Filing Fee of \$_____.
 - Surcharge of \$130.
 - Additional Claim Fees of \$_____.
 - Search Fee of \$
 - Examination Fee of \$
 - Application Size Fee (for each additional 50 sheets that exceeds 100 sheets, including specification and drawings) of \$
- Petition for Extension of Time (37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)) to file missing parts (in duplicate).
- Other: _____.
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

01/19/2006 MKAYPAGH 00000040 10520206

01 FC:1617

130.00 0P

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 10, 2006



Tadashi Horie
Registration No. 40,437
Attorney for Applicant(s)

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
P.O. Box 10395
Chicago, IL 60610
(312) 321-4200

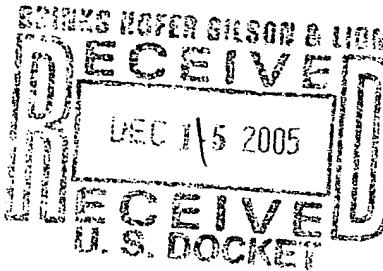
COPY

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
 United States Patent and Trademark Office
 Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
 www.uspto.gov

| U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO. | FIRST NAMED APPLICANT | ATTY. DOCKET NO. |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 10/520,206 | Toshio Mikiya | 10210/25 |

00757
 BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
 P.O. BOX 10395
 CHICAGO, IL 60610



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.

PCT/JP03/08170

| I.A. FILING DATE | PRIORITY DATE |
|------------------|---------------|
| 06/27/2003 | 06/28/2002 |

CONFIRMATION NO. 5078
 371 FORMALITIES LETTER



OC000000017634684

Date Mailed: 12/12/2005

NOTIFICATION OF MISSING REQUIREMENTS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371 IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)

The following items have been submitted by the applicant or the IB to the United States Patent and Trademark Office as a Designated / Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495).

- Copy of the International Application filed on 12/28/2004
- Copy of the International Search Report filed on 12/28/2004
- Preliminary Amendments filed on 07/07/2005
- Information Disclosure Statements filed on 07/07/2005
- Oath or Declaration filed on 12/28/2004
- Request for Immediate Examination filed on 12/28/2004
- U.S. Basic National Fees filed on 12/28/2004

The applicant needs to satisfy supplemental fees problems indicated below.

The following items **MUST** be furnished within the period set forth below in order to complete the requirements for acceptance under 35 U.S.C. 371:

- Oath or declaration of the inventors, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.497(a) and (b), identifying the application by the International application number and international filing date. The current oath or declaration does not comply with 37 CFR 1.497(a) and (b) in that it:
 - is not executed in accordance with either 37 CFR 1.66 or 37 CFR 1.68.
- To avoid abandonment, a surcharge (for late submission of filing fee, search fee, examination fee or oath or declaration) as set forth in 37 CFR 1.492(h) of \$130 for a non-small entity, must be submitted with the missing items identified in this letter.

SUMMARY OF FEES DUE

Total additional fees required for this application is \$130 for a Large Entity:

- \$130 Surcharge.

ALL OF THE ITEMS SET FORTH ABOVE MUST BE SUBMITTED WITHIN TWO (2) MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR BY 32 MONTHS FROM THE PRIORITY DATE FOR THE APPLICATION, WHICHEVER IS LATER. FAILURE TO PROPERLY RESPOND WILL RESULT IN ABANDONMENT.

The time period set above may be extended by filing a petition and fee for extension of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Applicant is reminded that any communications to the United States Patent and Trademark Office must be mailed to the address given in the heading and include the U.S. application no. shown above (37 CFR 1.5)

*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the response.*

PATRICIA A BOOKER

Telephone: (703) 308-9140 EXT 204

PART 1 - ATTORNEY/APPLICANT COPY

| U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO. | INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. | ATTY. DOCKET NO. |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| 10/520,206 | PCT/JP03/08170 | 10210/25 |

FORM PCT/DO/EO/905 (371 Formalities Notice)